

REMARKS

Claims remaining in the present patent application are numbered 1-7, 9-27, 29, and 30. Claims 1, 5, 9, 10, 20, 21, 25, 29, and 30 have been amended. Claims 8 and 28 have been canceled. The rejections and comments of the Examiner set forth in the Office Action dated January 25, 2005 have been carefully considered by the Applicants. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to consider and allow the remaining claims.

Acceptance of Allowed Claims

Claims 11-19 are allowed. Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the allowance of Claims 11-19 as allowable subject matter.

112 Rejection

The present Office Action rejected Claims 10, 20, and 28-30 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter. Specifically, Applicants have amended Claims 10, 20, and 30 so that no antecedent basis is required for "an overall traffic rate." In addition, Claim 20 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection. As such, Applicants respectfully contend that Claims 10, 20, and 30 particularly

points out and distinctly claim the subject matter and overcome the Examiner's objection and are in a condition for allowance.

In addition, Claim 20 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection. As such, Claim 20 which depends on independent Claim 11 is also in a condition for allowance as being dependent on a now allowable base claim.

Also, Applicants have canceled Claim 28 and incorporated Claim 28 into independent Claim 21. As such, Applicants have amended independent Claim 21 so that no antecedent basis is required for "a point coordinator."

35 U.S.C. §102 and §103 Rejections

The present Office Action rejected Claims 1, 5-6, 10, 21, 25-26, and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Seppala et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,747,968).

The present Office Action rejected Claims 2-4 and 22-24 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Seppala et al. reference.

NEWLY ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the indication that Claims 7-9 and 27-29 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including the limitations of their base claim and any intervening claims. In addition, Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the indication that Claims 12, 13, 14, and 15 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including the limitations of their base claim and any intervening claims.

INDEPENDENT CLAIM 1

Applicants have herein amended into independent Claim 1 the subject matter of Claim 8, which was cited on page 5 of the present Office Action as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including the limitations of its base Claim and any intervening claims. As a result, newly amended independent Claim 1 is now allowable over the prior art, and a discussion of the 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and/or 103(a) rejection of that Claim is moot at this time. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that independent Claim 1, as amended, overcomes the Examiner's basis for rejection, and as such Claims 2-7, 9, and 10 which depend on newly amended independent Claim 1 are also in a condition for allowance as being dependent on an allowable base claim.

INDEPENDENT CLAIM 21

Applicants have herein amended into independent Claim 21 the subject matter of Claim 28, which was cited on page 5 of the present Office Action as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including the limitations of its base Claim and any intervening claims. As a result, newly amended independent Claim 21 is now allowable over the prior art, and a discussion of the 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and/or 103(a) rejection of that Claim is moot at this time. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that independent Claim 21, as amended, overcomes the Examiner's basis for rejection, and as such Claims 22-27, 29, and 30 which depend on newly amended independent Claim 21 are also in a condition for allowance as being dependent on an allowable base claim.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above-listed remarks presented herein, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the present Application.

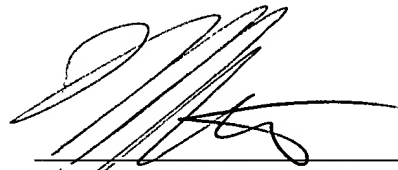
Applicants further respectfully point out that no contested Claims remain in the present Application.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present Application.

Respectfully submitted,

Wagner, Murabito & Hao LLP

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Lin C. Hsu

Reg. No.: 46,315

Two North Market Street

Third Floor

San Jose, California 95113